

Under Rule 15, a “motion to amend should be denied only where it would be prejudicial, there has been bad faith, or the amendment would be futile.” Nourison Rug Corporation v. Parvizian, 535 F.3d 295, 298 (4th Cir. 2008) (citing HCMF Corp. v. Allen, 238 F.3d 273, 276-77 (4th Cir. 2001)); see also, Foman v. Davis, 371 U.S. 178, 182 (1962). However, “the grant or denial of an opportunity to amend is within the discretion of the District Court.” Pittston Co. v. U.S., 199 F.3d 694, 705 (4th Cir. 1999) (quoting Foman, 371 U.S. at 182).

DISCUSSION

Then undersigned observes that *pro se* Plaintiff’s response to the pending “Defendant’s Motion To Dismiss” (Document No. 9) is late; nevertheless, the Court will accept Plaintiff’s “Motion For Leave To Amend And Supplement Complaint” (Document No. 11) as a timely response to the motion to dismiss. In the interests of justice and efficient case management, the undersigned will allow Plaintiff’s request to file an Amended Complaint which supersedes the original Complaint, without further delay. Furthermore, the undersigned will direct that “Defendant’s Motion To Dismiss” be denied as moot.

It is well settled that a timely-filed amended pleading supersedes the original pleading, and that motions directed at superseded pleadings may be denied as moot. Young v. City of Mount Ranier, 238 F.3d 567, 573 (4th Cir. 2001) (“The general rule ... is that an amended pleading supersedes the original pleading, rendering the original pleading of no effect.”); see also, Fawzy v. Wauquiez Boats SNC, 873 F.3d 451, 455 (4th Cir. 2017) (“Because a properly filed amended complaint supersedes the original one and becomes the operative complaint in the case, it renders the original complaint ‘of no effect.’”); Colin v. Marconi Commerce Systems Employees’ Retirement Plan, 335 F.Supp.2d 590, 614 (M.D.N.C. 2004) (“Earlier motions made by Defendants were filed prior to and have been rendered moot by Plaintiffs’ filing of the Second Amended

Complaint”); Brown v. Sikora and Associates, Inc., 311 Fed.Appx. 568, 572 (4th Cir. Apr. 16, 2008); and Atlantic Skanska, Inc. v. City of Charlotte, 3:07-CV-266-FDW, 2007 WL 3224985 at *4 (W.D.N.C. Oct. 30, 2007).

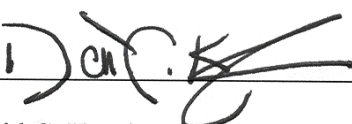
To the extent Defendant contends the Amended Complaint is deficient, this Order is without prejudice to Defendant filing a renewed motion to dismiss the Amended Complaint, if appropriate.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that Plaintiff’s “Motion For Leave To Amend And Supplement Complaint” (Document No. 11) is **GRANTED**. Plaintiff shall file an Amended Complaint on or before **December 23, 2020**.¹

IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that “Defendant’s Motion To Dismiss” (Document No. 9) is **DENIED AS MOOT**.

SO ORDERED.

Signed: December 14, 2020



David C. Keesler
United States Magistrate Judge



¹ The “Administrative Procedures Governing Filing and Service by Electronic Means,” revised January 1, 2018, at Part II, Section A, Paragraph 8, provide that: “If filing a document requires leave of the Court, such as an amended complaint, the attorney shall attach the proposed document as an exhibit to the motion according to the procedures in IV. If the Court grants the motion, the filer will be responsible for electronically filing the document on the case docket.”